

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants appreciate the acknowledgement of allowable subject matter in claim 14.

By the foregoing amendment, claim 14 has been canceled and the subject matter thereof has been incorporated into claim 1. Claims 17-21 have also been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer for filing in a continuation application. Thus, claims 1-13 and 15-16 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

In the Office Action mailed July 28, 2005, the title was objected to for failing to be descriptive. The title has been amended responsive to this objection. If any additional amendment is necessary to overcome the objection, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,882,364 to Inuiya (hereinafter "Inuiya"), and claims 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Osada (JP 2000-184386 A, hereinafter "Osada"). Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner rejected claim 16 as being unpatentable over Watanabe in view of Nakazato, and further in view of United States Patent Publication No. 2002/0076114 A1 to Prakash (hereinafter "Prakash"), claims 17 and 18 as being unpatentable over Watanabe in view of United States Patent No. 5,581,357 to Sasaki (hereinafter "Sasaki"), claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 12, 13 and 15 as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,522,356 to Watanabe (hereinafter "Watanabe") in view of United States Patent No. 5,592,575 to

Nakazato (hereinafter "Nakazato"), claims 3 and 5 as being unpatentable over Watanabe in view of Nakazato and further in view of United States Patent No. 5,280,347 to Shiraishi (hereinafter "Shiraishi"), and claims 10 and 11 as being unpatentable over Watanabe in view of Nakazato and further in view of United States Patent No. 5,663,759 to Horng. The Examiner objected to claim 14 as depending from a rejected base claim, but indicated that claim 14 would be allowable if rewritten to be in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Merely to facilitate allowance, the allowable subject matter of claim 14 has been incorporated into claim 1, and claim 14 has been canceled. Claims 17-21 have also been canceled. As such, claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a notice to such effect is respectfully requested.

As claim 1 is allowable, the Applicants submit that claims 2-13 and 15-16, which depend therefrom, are likewise allowable.

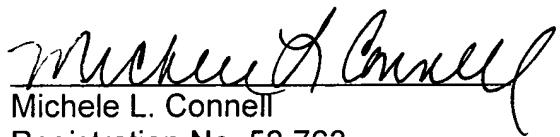
In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper has not been timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing docket number 107317-00038**

Respectfully submitted,

ARENT FOX, PLLC


Michele L. Connell
Registration No. 52,763

Customer No. 004372

1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6104
Fax: (202) 857-6395

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